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AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, or listings, of claims in this application.

1. (Original) A filled halobutyl elastomer composition comprising at least one halobutyl elastomer, at least one mineral filler and at least one protected thiol modifier.

2. (Currently amended) The A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to claim 1 wherein the halobutyl elastomer is a Bromobutyl elastomer.

3. (Currently amended) The A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the mineral filler is silica.

4. (Currently amended) The A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to ~~any of claims claim 1 to 3~~ wherein the at least one protected thiol modifier(s) ~~is/are~~ modifier is a blocked ~~mercaptosilane(s)~~ mercaptosilane.

5. (Currently amended) The A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to ~~any of claims claim 1 to 4~~ wherein the at least one protected thiol modifier(s) ~~is/are~~ modifier is selected from the group consisting of thioacetic acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thioacetic acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thioacetic acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thioacetic acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thioacetic acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thioacetic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiopropionic acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiopropionic acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiobutyric acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiobutyric acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester,

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pentanethioic acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, pentanethioic acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, pentanethioic acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, pentanethioic acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, pentanethioic acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, and pentanethioic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester or and mixtures thereof.

6. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a filled halobutyl elastomer which comprises:

admixing at least one halobutyl elastomer, at least one mineral filler, at least one protected thiol modifier and at least one cross-linking agent; and

curing the resulting admixture to make the filled ~~brominated-butyl~~ halobutyl elastomer.

7. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ in a method ~~of~~ for improving the abrasion resistance of a filled, cured elastomer composition comprising:

providing at least one halogenated butyl elastomer ~~by~~ and

admixing with said at least one halogenated butyl elastomer ~~with~~ at least one protected thiol modifier.